



Cpl. George Francis Sepsey

June 18, 1918 - November 26, 1942

CROSWELL- Nearly 84 years after he fell in the jungles of New Guinea, Cpl. George Francis Sepsey is finally coming home.

He was born on June 18, 1918 in Chicago, the son of Austrian-Hungarian immigrants, Theresa and Joseph Sepsey. George came to Croswell with his parents when he was one year old. Better known among his friends as “Judd”, he was prominent in Croswell High School athletics, playing basketball, football and baseball. He was one of the most popular and promising young men in Croswell. He was a member of the graduating Class of 1936.

In 1941, George enlisted in the Army National Guard. Joining Company M, 3rd Battalion, 126th Infantry Regiment of the 32nd “Red Arrow” Division, composed mostly of Michigan and Wisconsin men. The unit trained at Camp Livingston, Louisiana and shipped out to Australia in April of 1942.

On September 29th of that year they were deployed to Port Moresby, New Guinea. By November, Sepsey and his comrades were deep in rugged jungle. They were not trained for jungle warfare and were under supplied and poorly equipped.

George was assigned as a machine gun team leader. George’s team took part in the fierce fighting at the junction of the Sanananda Track and Killerton Trail near Soputa. The Japanese had constructed a roadblock and were well entrenched.

On November 26, 1942, during an assault on the roadblock, George was fatally wounded while leading his men. He was 24 years old. Cpl Sepsey was

the second Sanilac County man reported killed in action and the first from Croswell.

Georges remains were initially buried in Papua, New Guinea as an Unknown. In the following years he was exhumed and transferred to the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines. He was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star Medals.

In 2017, the Defense POW MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) exhumed unknown remains from Manila and transferred them for scientific analysis. Based on DNA testing, in April of 2025 they confirmed Georges identity. Now after nearly 84 years Croswell will welcome home its lost hero, a son, a brother, a Michigander and a "RED ARROW" soldier.

All Georges immediate family, including his parents, brothers and sisters have since passed away and he is survived by several nieces and nephews.

All are welcome to come and honor this fallen hero at a visitation that will be held from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Saturday, June 13, 2026 at the First Presbyterian Church in Croswell. Funeral Services will be held at 1 P.M. Saturday afternoon at the church. Rev. Linda Fuller will officiate.

Interment with full military honors provided by the U.S. Army National Honors and the Croswell American Legion will follow in the Mt. Hope Catholic Cemetery in Croswell, immediately following the services at the cemetery, the Croswell American Legion and its members invite all to the American Legion for a Welcome Home Luncheon that will be provided by them in honor of George and his family. Memorials in memory of George are suggested to the Croswell American Legion.

Let us remember "All gave some and some gave All", as we honor this young man who gave All.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Hope Cemetery

Black River Rd.
Croswell, MI

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 13. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
7 S. Howard Ave.
Croswell, MI 48422
(810) 679-3352
firstpresbycros@att.net

Church Service

JUN 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

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7 S. Howard Ave.
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Tribute Wall

FN

“ Fran, Alec, Avery, Amara, and Nyal purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Cpl. George Francis Sepsey.



Fran, Alec, Avery, Amara, and Nyal - Yesterday at 01:11 PM

DN

“ Diane Duma Niblick. While I did not know Cpl. Sepsey, my heart goes out to the family of this hero. This article caught my attention because my father Michael Duma was deployed to New Guinea at the same time, I was not born yet but I always remember that he was in New Guinea. Fortunately my father did come back but I still have a place in my heart for those that didn't. God bless you and all the other families involved.

Diane Duma Niblick - June 07 at 01:26 PM

KD

“ Katie D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cpl. George Francis Sepsey.

Katie D. - June 05 at 08:43 PM

FW

“ Welcome home Uncle Judd! My brother, sister and I heard many stories in our youth and adulthood about your kindness and popularity in the Croswell community. Your parents, Joseph and Theresa, were so proud of you and your military photo hung on the wall in Grandma’s front room on Mill St. Your sister Mary (Marion) Sepsey Woehler, my mother, kept your light alive her 98 years with anecdotal stories told with a fondness, love and with a never ending hope that you would be found and returned home. Thanks to my sister’s quest and the DNA sample my mother, (your sister) provided, as well as my brother’s and sister’s DNA you are coming home after 83 years! What a miraculous event and cause for celebration! You were well loved by all of your siblings, Joe, Eleanor, Dorothy “Dot”, Frank, Mary, (*George aka Judd), Steve and Liz.
Fondly, your niece, Frances Woehler

Frances (Fran) Woehler - May 29 at 12:40 PM

JR

“ While I did not know this hero as I was born in October of 1941, I wish to send my condolences to his family who have waited so long for him to return home. I thank this young man for his service and sacrifice giving his life that I could have freedom and to be able to grow up in this wonderful country, the great United States of America. May he rest in peace.

Jerrie Lynn Holmes Robinson - May 23 at 02:08 PM

PH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



pomeroy funeral home - May 22 at 12:44 PM

DH

What a good looking young man. Im so sorry to the family of the loss of his life. And im grateful that hes finally coming home to where he should be. May he rest in peace now. 🙏

Debbie Harmer - June 05 at 04:17 PM

SD

Welcome home George. To the family I'm sorry for your loss, and I so happy George made it back home.

Sandra Devisme - June 10 at 04:46 PM